CLASSIFICATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGEN

INFORMATION FROM

FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

CD NO.

COUNTRY Communist China

DATE OF

INFORMATION 1949 STAT

SUBJECT

Economic

DATE DIST. /7 ct 1949

HOW **PUBLISHED**

WHERE

Daily newspapers

PUBLISHED

Rong Kong

NO. OF PAGES 2

DATE

PUBLISHED

5.- 11 September 1949

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

LANGUAGE

Chinese

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE

Newspapers as indicated.

NORTH CHIMA SEEKS ACRICULTURAL PROGRESS

PLANE COTTON HARVEST -- Ta Kung Pao, 11 Sap 49

Pei-p'ing, 9 September (NCNA) ... With the rapid approach of the cotton harvest season, the Cotton-Improvement Department of the Ministry of Agriculture of the North China People's Government called a conference on 1 September at Poi-p'ing to discuss ways and means of improving the quality of cotton and increasing una production of long-staple types suitable for the looms now in use in North China weaving mills. Although some crop expansion was realized in 1949, the needs of the mills were ofill unsatisfied. It is planned to have 166,666.6 acres of No 2 improved seed under cultivation in 1950.

The conference recognized that it would be necessary to begin immediately to carry out the program and to secure mass action in seed selection to realize a general improvement in the quality that is being scught.

PROMOTES COTTON PRODUCTION -- Wen-hui Pao, 10 Sep 49

Pei-p'ing, 9 September - The Ministry of Agriculture of the North China People's Government, with a view to improving the quality of North China cotton and reaching the cultivation goal of 1.4 million acres for 1950, has organized a cotton-production promotion group made up of 30 experts from the Cotton-Improvement Department, the North China Agricultural Science Research Office, and the agricultural departments of Fei-ping and Ching-hua universities. The group will visit all the important cotton-producing areas of North China, beginning 1 September 1949, to assist the various local authorities and experiment station technicians in selection of seed and investigate a number of model villages that specialize in cotton culture in order to set production goals for 1950.

ISSUES ACRICULTURAL INSTRUCTIONS -- Wen-hul Pao, 5 Sep 49

Pei-p'ing 4 September 1949 -- The North China People's Government has issued instructions concerning the autum harvest and planting of winter theat. All local agencies are instructed to see that crops ready for harvesting are gathered in the shortest possible time to clear the ground for planting of winter wheat. All classes, including women, the indigent, soldiers, and any others who can be, are enrolled in the farm labor force.

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Drought, insect plagues, late frosts, and floods have taken a heavy toll of food stuffs in North China this year. It is therefore necessary that a very large acreage of winter wheat be planted to afford relief in the shortage that threatens North China this year. Organized efforts should be made to get the flood waters off the land now under water.

In cotton-producing areas affected by drought, prices of cotton must be held down to the level of 8 - 10 pounds of rice for one pound of cotton.

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